

REMARKS

This Second Amendment After Final replaces the Amendment After Final filed on June 27, 2008, which the Examiner has not yet entered. On July 29, 2008, a representative of our firm, Linda Phillips, telephoned Examiner Fotakis to inquire about the status of his decision on the Amendment After Final filed on June 27, 2008. The Examiner indicated that he was inclined to allow claims 40 and 41, if amended to remove the dependencies on apparatus claims. Applicants submit this Second Amendment After Final to correct the dependencies in claims 40 and 41, and add new claims 42 and 43, which mirror claims 40 and 41, but depend from apparatus claims. Applicants submit that all claims are now in condition for allowance.

In the Final Office Action mailed April 29, 2008 ("Office Action"), the Examiner objected to claims 9, 30, and 34 because of informalities; rejected claims 1, 4-5, 7, 12, 15-16, 19, 29, and 33 under 35 U.S.C §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,356,581 to Nguyen et al. ("*Nguyen*"); rejected claims 9, 20, 30, and 34 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Nguyen* in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,718,449 to Phi ("*Phi*"); rejected claims 17 and 28 under 35 U.S.C §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Nguyen* in view of U.S. Patent Publication No. 2003/0086481 to Sih et al. ("*Sih*"); and objected to claims 10-11, 22-25, 31-32, and 36-38 as being dependent on a rejected base claim, but otherwise containing allowable subject matter.

By this Amendment, Applicants have amended claims 10-11, 22-25, 31-32, 36, and 38. No new matter has been added with these amendments. Further, Applicants have canceled claims 1, 4-5, 7-9, 12, 15-17, 19-21, 28-30, 33-34, and 37, without prejudice or disclaimer, thereby rendering any objection or rejection of these claims moot. Applicants have added new claims 40-43, all dependent claims. Claims 10-11,

22-25, 31-32, 36, 38, and 40-43 are now pending in this application. In addition, Applicants do not necessarily agree with or acquiesce in the Examiner's characterization of the claims or the applied references, even if those characterizations are not addressed herein.

I. Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 10-11, 22-25, 31-32, and 36-38 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicants acknowledge the indication of allowable subject matter in claims 10-11, 22-25, 31-32, and 36-38. Independent claims 10-11 have been amended to include all the limitations of claims 1, 7, 8, and 9. Independent claims 22-25, 31-32, 36, and 38 have been similarly amended. New claims 40-43 depend either directly or indirectly from one of claims 10-11, 22-25, 31-32, 36, and 38. Accordingly, Applicants submit that claims 10-11, 22-25, 31-32, 36, 38, and 40-43 are in condition for allowance.

II. Conclusion

Applicants respectfully request that this Amendment under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 be entered by the Examiner, placing claims 10-11, 22-25, 31-32, 36-38, and 40-43 in condition for allowance. Applicants submit that the proposed amendments of claims 10-11, 22-25, 31-32, 36, and 38 and new claims 40-43 do not raise new issues or necessitate the undertaking of any additional search of the art by the Examiner, since all of the elements and their relationships claimed were either earlier claimed or inherent in

the claims as examined. Therefore, this Amendment should allow for immediate action by the Examiner.

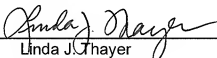
In view of the foregoing remarks, Applicants request the entry of this Amendment, the Examiner's reconsideration and reexamination of the application, and the timely allowance of the pending claims.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to Deposit Account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

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